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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 31, 2014

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SHERIFF GOLDEN MAKES CHILD SAFETY A PRIORITY THROUGH YOUTH ID PROGRAM

Freehold: Sheriff Shaun Golden is pleased to announce that the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office issued more than 1,000 youth ID cards during the Monmouth County Fair which was held from July 23 to July 27. The Youth ID Program consists of a credit card size photo ID of a child that is carried by a parent or guardian who maintains complete control of the card. In an emergency, the card can be given to local first responders to aid in the rapid location and safe return of a child.

"The Youth ID Program is offered year round and helps ensure the safety of our children, which is a top priority at the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office," said Sheriff Shaun Golden. "The photo ID process is fast, friendly and does not compromise the privacy or identity of a child."

Parents are asked to complete a brief information and authorization form, a digital photo is taken, and after the information and photo are placed on the card, it's mailed to the parents.

The success of the Youth ID program would not be made possible without the assistance and dedication of the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office clerical staff who worked at the Monmouth County Fair and the VISCOMP (Volunteers in Sheriff's Community Programs) volunteers who participate in community programs.

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"I commend the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office for this valuable program which is aimed at keeping our children safe," said First Assistant Monmouth County Prosecutor Marc LeMieux. "When a child goes missing every second counts and this card could be used as a valuable source of information for law enforcement."

The Youth ID Program will also be offered at National Night out on August 5, in Long Branch, Neptune, Manalapan, Sea Girt, Fair Haven and Ocean Township.

To schedule a Youth ID Program please contact Kathy Morrison at (732) 431-6400 ext. 1122.

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